AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~PACKET-NETWORK INTERFACING~~

A ~~method of establishing a~~ tunnel is established across an IPv4 domain for the transport of packets from a source host on one IPv6 domain to a destination host on another IPv6 domain, there being respective interfaces between the IPv4 domain and the IPv6 domains. ~~The source host sends a normal IPv6 address request to its local DNS server, which relays it to an IPv6 name server in the other IPv6 domain. The response message, containing the true IPv6 address of the destination is received at the remote interface, which appends to the resulting protocol converted DNS response message a first additional record containing the true IPv6 address, and a second additional record containing the IPv4 address of that interface. Upon receipt at the near interface, the additional records are stripped off, their contents stored in an entry of a table, and the true IPv6 address written into the address record of the resulting IPv6 DNS response message. When the near interface receives a packet from an IPv6 host, it checks whether the destination address matches an entry of its table, and if so sends the packet to the encapsulator together with the IPv4 address of the remote interface. The remote interface extracts the source address and the address of the encapsulating interface and stores these in an entry in its corresponding table for use in encapsulating return packets to the source.~~

~~If, however, the destination address is recognized as being of IPv4 compatible or IPv4 mapped format, the packet is sent to a protocol converter.~~

~~Figure 2.~~